

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

9. (currently amended) A Targa roof system for a vehicle including:

a roof part arranged and constructed to ~~extend between~~ be latched to a cross member, which includes or is attached to an upper side of a windshield, ~~and a traverse cross beam, which transversely spans a vehicle inner compartment and is spaced from the cross member,~~

a first guide rail disposeable on a first lateral side of the vehicle and a second guide rail disposeable on a second lateral side of the vehicle, each guide rail being at least two guide rails arranged and constructed to extend substantially from a roof of the vehicle to a floor of the vehicle, each guide rail being disposable on a lateral side of the vehicle in an area underneath the traverse cross beam, and

~~a guide device disposed on each side of the roof part in the rear area of the roof part, each guide device including a forward guide element and a rear guide element, wherein each guide element is fixedly attached to the rear area of the roof part and is spaced from each other in a longitudinal direction of the roof part,~~

a first forward guide element and a first rear guide element attached on a first lateral side of a rear area of the roof part, and

a second forward guide element and a second rear guide element attached on a second lateral side of the rear area of the roof part, the forward guide elements being spaced from the rear guide elements in a longitudinal direction of the roof part,

wherein the roof part is pivotable via the guide elements with respect to the roof about its the rear area of the roof part from a closed position into an upwardly tilted position and then is downwardly lowerable into a stowed position by ~~being guided along~~ guiding the first forward guide element and the first rear guide element in the first guide rail and by guiding rails via the second forward guide element and the second rear guide element in the second guide rail without pivoting the roof part relative to the guide rails for at least a portion of the downward movement.

10. (currently amended) A Targa roof system according to claim 9, wherein each forward guide element is pivotably borne at an axis ~~defined by~~ located on longitudinal cross beams arranged and constructed to be affixed on the respective first and second lateral sides of the vehicle, the forward guide elements being arranged and constructed to pivot the roof part, so that when the roof part is upwardly pivoted, the rear guide elements move downwardly in the respective guide rails by pivoting of the guide rails about respective linkages arranged and constructed to pivotably couple the guide rails to the vehicle floor.

11. (currently amended) A Targa roof system according to claim 10, further comprising a rail piece pivotably borne at the axis ~~defined by~~ located on the longitudinal cross beams, the forward guide elements being slidably and latchably holdable on the respective rail pieces.

12. (previously presented) A Targa roof system according to claim 11, wherein the rail pieces are arranged and constructed to come into an aligned abutment state with the respective guide rails when the roof part is fully upwardly tilted, so that the guide elements are movable away from the respective rail pieces and into the respective guide rails.

13. (previously presented) A Targa roof system according to claim 12, wherein the guide rails are pivotable together with the roof part into an abutment position when the roof part has been lowered into the stowed position.

14. (previously presented) A Targa roof system according claim 13, wherein a forward end of the roof part is transparent.

15. (previously presented) A Targa roof system according to claim 9, wherein the guide rails are pivotable together with the roof part into an abutment position when the roof part has been lowered into the stowed position.

16. (previously presented) A Targa roof system according claim 9, wherein a forward end of the roof part is transparent.

17. (currently amended) A vehicle comprising:

- ~~a cross member, which includes an upper side of a windshield frame,~~
- ~~a traverse cross beam transversely spanning a vehicle inner compartment and being spaced from the cross member,~~
- a first roof part,
- a floor,
- a second roof part ~~extending between~~ latchable with the cross member ~~and the traverse cross beam~~ when the second roof part is disposed in a closed position,
- at least two guide rails extending substantially between the first roof part and the a floor of the vehicle, each guide rail being disposed on a lateral side of the vehicle ~~in an area substantially underneath the traverse cross beam~~, and
- ~~a guide device disposed on each side of the roof part in the rear area of the roof part, each guide device including a forward guide element and a rear guide element~~ disposed on each lateral side of the second roof part in a rear area thereof, wherein each forward guide element ~~is fixedly attached to the rear area of the roof part and is spaced from each other~~ each rear guide element in a longitudinal direction of the second roof part,
- wherein the second roof part is pivotable via the guide elements with respect to the first roof part about ~~its~~ the rear area of the second roof part from a closed position into an upwardly tilted position and then is downwardly lowerable into a stowed position by being guided along the guide rails via the forward guide ~~element~~ elements and the rear guide ~~element~~ elements without pivoting relative to the guide rails for at least a portion of the downward movement, and
- wherein the guide rails are pivotable together with the second roof part into an abutment position at least when the second roof part has been lowered into the stowed position.

18. (currently amended) A vehicle according to claim 17, wherein the first roof part comprises a longitudinal cross beam disposed on each lateral side of the second roof part, ~~which lateral~~ the longitudinal cross beams are being removable from the vehicle at least when the second roof part is disposed in the stowed position.

19. (currently amended) A vehicle according to claim 18, wherein each forward guide element is pivotably borne at an axis ~~defined by~~ located on the longitudinal cross beams, the forward guide elements being arranged and constructed to pivot the second roof part, so that when the second roof part is upwardly pivoted, the rear guide elements move downwardly in the guide rails by pivoting of the guide rails about respective linkages pivotably coupling the guide rails to the vehicle floor.

20. (currently amended) A vehicle according to claim 19, further comprising a rail piece ~~arranged and constructed to be~~ pivotably borne at the axis ~~defined by~~ located on the longitudinal cross beams, the forward guide elements being slidably and latchably holdable on the respective rail pieces.

21. (previously presented) A vehicle according to claim 20, wherein the rail pieces are arranged and constructed to come into an aligned abutment state with the guide rails when the second roof part is fully upwardly tilted, so that the guide elements are movable away from the respective rail pieces and into the guide rails.

22. (currently amended) A vehicle according to claim 21, wherein each set of forward and rear guide elements is rigidly attached to the second roof part and is arranged and constructed to slide along a single guide rail ~~the guide rails are pivotable together with the second roof part into an abutment position when the second roof part has been lowered into the stowed position.~~

23. (previously presented) A vehicle according claim 22, wherein a forward end of the second roof part is transparent.

24. (currently amended) A vehicle according to claim 17, wherein each set of forward and rear guide elements is rigidly attached to the second roof part and is arranged and constructed to slide along a single guide rail ~~the guide rails are pivotable together with the second roof part into an abutment position when the second roof part has been lowered into the stowed position.~~

25. (currently amended) A vehicle according claim 17, wherein a forward end of the second roof part is transparent.

26. (previously presented) A Targa roof system for a vehicle including:

a movable roof section,

first and second guide elements rigidly affixed to a rear portion of the movable roof section, the first and second guide elements being spaced in a longitudinal direction of the movable roof section and being arranged and constructed to enable the movable roof section to upwardly pivot from a closed position about at least the first guide element,

a guide rail arranged and constructed to receive the first and second guide elements so as to guide movement of the movable roof section along the guide rail into a stowed position defined within a vehicle inner compartment, the guide rail being disposable on a lateral side of the vehicle,

wherein the movable roof part is downwardly lowerable from an upwardly pivoted position into the stowed position by guiding the first and second guide elements along the guide rail without pivoting of the movable roof part relative to the guide rail for at least a portion of the downward movement.

27. (currently amended) A Targa roof system according to claim 26, wherein the first guide element is pivotably borne at an axis ~~defined by~~ located on a longitudinal cross beam arranged and constructed to be affixed on the lateral side of the vehicle, the first guide element being arranged and constructed to pivot the movable roof part, so that when the movable roof part is upwardly pivoted, the second guide element moves downwardly in the guide rail by pivoting of the guide rail about a hinge arranged and constructed to couple the guide rail to a floor of the vehicle.

28. (previously presented) A Targa roof system according to claim 27, further comprising a rail piece arranged and constructed to be pivotably borne at the axis defined by the longitudinal cross beam, the first guide element being slidably and latchably holdable on the rail piece, wherein the rail piece is arranged and constructed to come into an aligned abutment state with the guide rail when the movable roof part is fully upwardly tilted, so that the guide elements are movable away from the rail piece and into the guide rail, and wherein the guide rail is pivotable together with the movable roof part via the hinge into an abutment position when the movable roof part has been lowered into the stowed position.